



Appendix

Suggested Activities and Resources for Learning at Home with Children

OFFLINE & ONLINE IDEAS DURING COVID-19



Aga Khan Education Services



AGA KHAN FOUNDATION



25 **Offline Learning** Activities & Resources

(no electronics required)

Family Time

- 1. Plan surprise acts of kindness:** Encourage your child to plan one, secret surprise act of kindness for another person in the family throughout the week.
- 2. Connect and learn from relatives:** Invite your child to interview older relatives or neighbours to describe what they remember about growing up when they were the same age as your child. Have your child make a record of what they learnt.
- 3. Make and send 'I Appreciate You' notes:** Encourage children to make a card, draw a picture or write a note of appreciation to family relatives, neighbors, or others that do not live with you. It will lift spirits.



25 **Offline Learning** Activities & Resources

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Family Time

- 4. Cook meals together:** Invite children to help prepare a meal is a great way to spend together; especially learning new recipes. Cooking encourages children to take responsibility, and collaborate with others – and is a great way to learn mathematics.
- 5. Explore family members' personal goals:** What is one personal goal that your child hopes to complete this next year? In what ways could others in your family help your child's efforts?



25 **Offline Learning** Activities & Resources

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Fun Activities in the House – Learning in Mathematics, Literacy and More

6. **Create 'obstacle courses' and 'homemade forts'**: Click [here](#) for inspiration.
7. **Host family 'treasure' hunts**: Create written or spoken clues for your children to search for items in the house leading to a pretend 'treasure'. Click [here](#) or [here](#) for some ideas about clues.
8. **Play 'I Spy' games**: Play 'I Spy' with children looking around your home or outside. Think about giving clues related to shape or colour or size. Click [here](#) for instructions.
9. **Create a Family Word Jar for new vocabulary**: When you read stories together, write down words that are new to your children on pieces of paper and place them in a Family Word Jar; pull them out later to practice.



25 **Offline Learning** Activities & Resources

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Fun Activities in the House – Learning in Mathematics, Literacy and More

- 10. Put on puppet shows:** Use old socks or other items around the house have children create homemade puppets and put on a show. Click [here](#) for some ideas.
- 11. Act as a journalist:** Invite children to interview grandparents, parents and friends about their day or their experience with COVID-19 and present a their 'news bulletin' to family members.
- 12. Sharpen your memory:** Play memory games where the family members make a story by repeating and adding items in alphabetical order 'Today we're going on a picnic, and we're bringing an apple / an apple and a banana / an apple, banana and cold water..... Click [here](#) for details.
- 13. Sing together and learn new songs:** Explore, share, write new songs together as a family.



25 Offline Learning Activities & Resources

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Fun Activities in the House – Learning in Mathematics, Literacy and More

14. **Resurrect games of yesteryear:** Have children learn and play the games and pass times of parents and grandparents
15. **Burn energy with ‘Stop and Go Games’:** Involve children in the ‘Red Light, Green Light’ game they ‘freeze’ and then follow instructions to move in fun ways. Click [here](#) for some ideas.
16. **Challenge family members with ‘Simon Says’:** Host family ‘Simon Says’ games, using different fun directions. Click [here](#) for 101 ideas of the types of instructions you could give.
17. **Try hand-clapping games :** After washing your hands, encourage children to learn new handclapping games or make one up and teach other members of the family. Click [here](#) or [here](#) for some ideas.



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Fun Activities in the House – Learning in Mathematics, Literacy and More

- 18. Create using materials around the home:** Using blocks or materials you would recycle (i.e. boxes, milk containers), invite children to create cities, towns, musical instruments and use what they have made to tell a story. Click [here](#) for an example and [here](#) for five more ideas
- 19. Set up a store/market/restaurant in your house:** Pretend your home is a store or market and add price tags to various items. Turn dinner time into a restaurant experience and encourage children to act as waiters, make fun menus, design decorations, and even create new recipes together.
- 20. Play card games:** With a standard 52 card deck, learn to play new card games. Children can also build card-houses and use cards for math or memory games. Click [here](#) for 10 games.



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Fun Activities in the House – Learning in Mathematics, Literacy and More

- 21. Design and fly paper airplanes:** Learn to design, build, decorate and fly paper planes together. See which plane goes the furthest or fastest! Click [here](#) for 45 paper airplane designs.
- 22. Create fun paper hats and play dress up:** Use paper plates with children to create fun hats. Click [here](#) for directions. Children can also dress up with clothes from adults and put on fun fashion shows.
- 23. Make your own dice and play new games:** Click [here](#) or [here](#) to learn how to make dice with paper. Then click [here](#) for some ideas of games with dice.
- 24. Move, dance and exercise together:** Even 20 minutes a day of exercise makes a huge difference. Click [here](#) for ideas.
- 25. Co-create a daily family routines:** Click [here](#) for some weekly sample routines for children of all ages.



PART II

35 Online Learning Activities & Resources

Learning Across Multiple Subjects

1. **Khan Academy:** An online resource for independent learning for all ages. Click [here](#).
2. **Scholastic Learning:** Project-based, week-long learning units for grades K-9. Click [here](#).
3. **Wonderopolis:** Daily lessons of fun, 'child wonder topics' to explore. Click [here](#).
4. **PBS Learning Media:** Curated daily, subject-specific, age appropriate materials. Click [here](#).
5. **YouTube 'Learn at Home':** Curated channels for interactive learning videos. Click [here](#).
6. **YouTube 'PLAY' Series:** 3-minute videos of games to play at home with children. Click [here](#).
7. **Kahoot!:** Create a game show at home with custom or pre-made trivia questions. Click [here](#).
8. **Zero to Three:** Home-based play activities for children aged 12 to 24 months. Click [here](#).
9. **Vroom:** Science-based app providing practical tips for parents of young children. Click [here](#)



PART II

35 Online Learning Activities & Resources

Learning through Reading

10. **Epic:** 40,000 books for children under 12 years old. Limited time for free access. Click [here](#).
11. **Audible Stories:** Access to 1000s of 'read-aloud' stories from Amazon for all. Click [here](#).
12. **Global Digital Library:** Access to free digital books in 48 languages. Click [here](#).
13. **Antura and Letters:** Global app to learn to read; available in 25 languages. Click [here](#).
14. **YouTube 'KidTimeStoryTime':** Curated 'read aloud' children's books in all topics. Click [here](#).
15. **Story Time from Space:** Listen to astronauts reading books from space. Click [here](#).
16. **World Reader:** Storybooks for your mobile device (start with 75 free ones). Click [here](#).
17. **Story Weaver:** Storybooks for children in different languages. Click [here](#).
18. **African Story Book:** Access storybooks in African languages, 700+ in Kiswahili. Click [here](#).



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Learning Mathematics

- 19. **BedTime Math:** Daily, funny, 5-min math word problems for children of all ages. Click [here](#).
- 20. **Erikson Early Math:** Math-based learning games for children in early years. Click [here](#).
- 21. **Omnicalculator:** 1032 custom calculators to use math in the real world. Click [here](#).
- 22. **Photomath:** An app to take photos of math problems and receive assistance. Click [here](#).
- 23. **TeachBanzai:** Financial literacy for all aged children. Click [here](#).

Learning about Science and Technology

- 24. **Nasa Kids Club:** A range of STEM resources related to science and space for children. Click [here](#).
- 25. **MosaMackScience:** Science/engineering challenges for children aged 9 to 13. Click [here](#).
- 26. **Coding:** Explore how to code at either Code.org (click [here](#)) or Code Academy (click [here](#)).
- 27. **TypingClub:** Encourage children and young people to learn and master typing. Click [here](#).



PART II

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Learning through Exercise, Play and Exploration

28. **GoNoodle:** A suite of online, fun exercise videos for children, developed by experts. Click [here](#).
29. **Playworks:** A helpful list of children's physical activities for use within indoors. Click [here](#).
30. **YoReMi:** A site with yoga activities for children, now free during the COVID-19 crisis. Click [here](#).
31. **ChessKid:** Learn how to play chess and play with children around the world. Click [here](#).
32. **FiveMinuteMum:** Curated list of 5-minute activities children can do at home for fun. Click [here](#).
33. **Virtual Museums:** Explore 12 virtual museums that match children's interests. Click [here](#).

Learning a New Language

34. **Duolingo:** Learn a foreign language through an interactive, downloadable app. Click [here](#).
35. **CommonSenseMedia:** Curated list of 33 sites/apps to learn a foreign language. Click [here](#).



PART III

5 Resources for Talking about COVID-19 with Children

1. **COVIBOOK:** Downloadable children's book about COVID-19 in many languages. Click [here](#).
2. **The Red Cross:** A list of advice and resources for speaking to children about COVID-19. Click [here](#).
3. **World Health Organization:** Curated site of videos about aspects of COVID-19. Click [here](#).
4. **WhatsApp Facts:** Interactive app with facts about COVID-19 from the WHO. Click [here](#).
5. **YouTube Baby Shark Song for Handwashing:** Childrens video for hand washing. Click [here](#).

For updated information, it is important to reference the WHO as a trusted source as the situation evolves.



PART IV

10 **Websites** for More Learning Materials

1. **UNESCO:** Repository offline/online learning websites during school closures. Click [here](#).
2. **INEE:** Repository of offline/online resources for education in emergencies. Click [here](#).
3. **UNICEF:** Responses to COVID-19 for children (click [here](#)) and online safety guides (click [here](#)).
4. **World Bank:** Repository of resources for supporting children learning at home. Click [here](#).
5. **Save the Children:** Repository of COVID-19 learning at home resources for families. Click [here](#).



PART IV

10 **Websites** for More Learning Materials

6. **Forbes Magazine:** 101 ideas for supporting children's learning at home. Click [here](#).
7. **We Are Teachers:** 1000+ learning at home resources listed by grade/subject. Click [here](#).
8. **Amazing Educators:** 1000+ crowdsourced ideas for learning during COVID-19. Click [here](#).
9. **Oxford University:** List of recommended home learning resources from the UK. Click [here](#).
10. **ECD Action Network:** List of resources for promoting early childhood development. Click [here](#).



Thank you.



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